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EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

⑬ Application number: 92202905.3

⑮ Int. Cl. 5: H02H 3/00

⑭ Date of filing: 22.09.92

⑯ Priority: 21.10.91 US 779766

3044 West Grand Boulevard
Detroit Michigan 48202(US)

⑰ Date of publication of application:
12.05.93 Bulletin 93/19

⑯ Inventor: Schneider, Eric Duane
506 Stonehedge Drive
Carmel, Indiana 46032(US)

⑯ Designated Contracting States:
DE FR GB IT

⑯ Representative: Denton, Michael John et al
Patent Section
1st Floor
Gideon House
28 Chapel Street
Luton Bedfordshire LU1 2SE (GB)

⑰ Applicant: GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION
General Motors Building

⑯ Drive apparatus for a power device.

⑰ A drive apparatus (10) which electrically isolates logic level and high-side circuits and detects high side power device fault conditions at the isolated, logic level side of the circuit. When an overvoltage or overcurrent condition occurs at the power semiconductor device (12), a protection circuit (22) disables the conduction of current through the current carrying terminals of the power device, preventing

damage from occurring to the device. Activation of the protection circuit effects an increased current flow in the secondary and primary coils of the isolation transformer (16) between the low side and high side elements. Voltage at the primary coil of the isolation transformer is monitored by low level circuitry (24) to detect the rise in current, indicating a fault to the system controller upon detection.

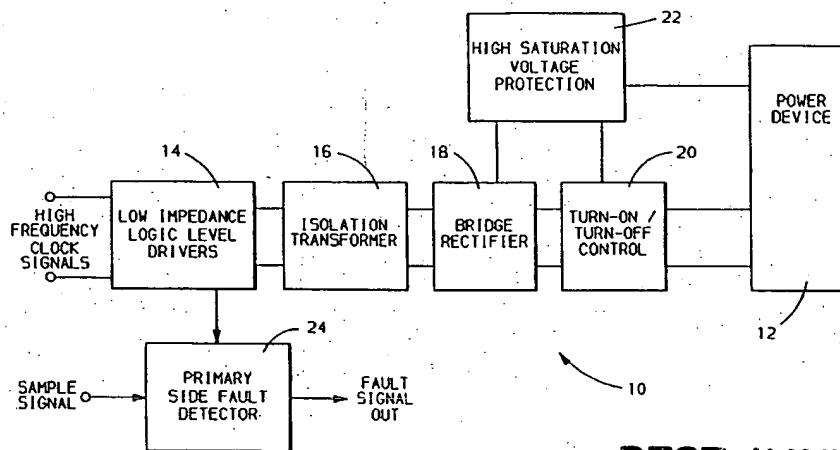


FIG. 1

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EP 0 541 140 A3



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⑪ Publication number: 0 541 140 A2

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General Motors Building 3044 West Grand
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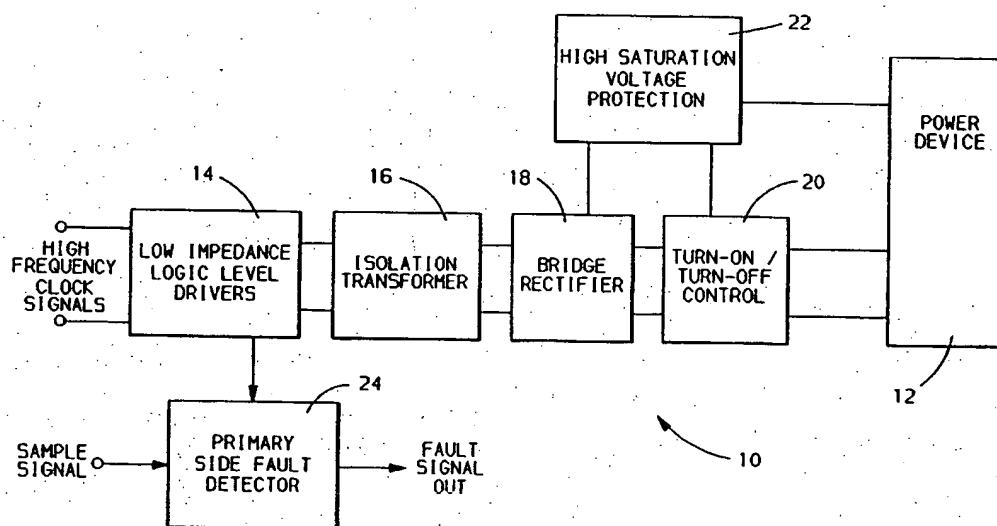


FIG. 1

EP 0 541 140 A2